

INTRODUCTION TO ARMY KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

LTG Peter M. Cuiello

"... The dream behind the Web is of a common information space in which we communicate by sharing information. Its universality is essential: the fact that a hypertext link can point to anything, be it personal, local or global, be it draft or highly polished ... [And] that once the state of our interactions was online, we could then use computers to help us analyze it, make sense of what we are doing, where we individually fit in, and how we can better work together."

—Tim Berners-Lee

Inventor, World Wide Web, 1989

This early, prophetic vision is reflected in the Army transformation effort toward world-class, network-centric, knowledge-based capabilities. We may not be able to predict the future with knowledge management, but we can better anticipate the unexpected. The fluid, adaptive principles that form the underpinnings of knowledge management will provide the Army with a clear objective vision—a road map to the future.

We must streamline our processes, leverage information technology to our strategic advantage, and use best-business practices to gain maximum efficiencies. Above all, we must empower and enable our people by advancing the sharing of information through the development of new communication channels and supporting key innovation elements, for people are our most important strategic resource. This effi-

cient generation, organization, utilization, and sharing of information will provide the basis for support to the warfighter. Army knowledge management is the strategic transformer for the Internet-age Army. It will deliver improved information access and sharing, while providing infostructure capabilities across the Army so that warfighters and business stewards can act quickly and decisively. Army knowledge management connects people, knowledge, and technologies. It is this connection that leads to innovation and breakthrough thinking for the Army of the future.

In this issue of *Army AL&T* magazine, several contributors have presented excellent examples of initiatives, programs, and concepts that exploit knowledge management tools and principles. The Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Army expect your advocacy and full support as we collectively achieve the enterprise Army knowledge management goals in support of Army transformation.

LTG PETER M. CUIELLO is the Director of Information Systems for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers and the Army Chief Information Officer. He holds a B.A. in political science from Canisius College and a master's in business administration in operations research and systems analysis from the Florida Institute of Technology. LTG Cuiello's e-mail address is peter.cuiello@us.army.mil.
